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27 April 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director of Operations
THROUGH: Deputy Project Director
SUBJECT: Policy and Procedure for Pilots Forced
Down in Hostile Territory

1. I am returning herewith your draft of Operations Policy Letter No. 6. I passed this paper to General Cabell with my oral endorsement. He has returned it with the comments you will see on the cover sheet and along the side of the text.
2. With reference to his comments, I have already discussed the need for a written "Missing Aircraft Procedure" paper. This should set forth steps to be taken, (a) to announce that an aircraft is missing, (b) to institute appropriate search and rescue activities, and (c) to release information to the press as appropriate. With respect to the last of these three items, the Project Cover Officer has already drafted a paper on a cover story for this contingency and I have asked him as soon as possible to go to work on the draft of a possible press release to accompany an announcement that an aircraft is missing. Would you take this as my official request to you to prepare the missing aircraft procedure document as a companion piece to Operations Policy Letter No. 6. This should be done jointly with the Cover Officer who will contribute to the document as indicated above.
3. With respect to General Cabell's marginal comment on page three of the draft Policy Letter, the procedure document requesting the preceding paragraph is, of course, the proper place to provide for any necessary emergency instructions to air attaches. Frankly, I am not entirely sure what General Cabell has in mind under this heading but will ascertain and advise you further. In any case, this does not affect Policy Letter No. 6 itself.

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4. You will note that Gen. Cabell has made a change in paragraph four e. of the draft (on page 5). He definitely desires this change to be made.

5. If you have not already done so, I would appreciate it if you would pass this draft, with Gen. Cabell's own amendment on page five, to Col. Berg for USAF comment.


RICHARD M. BISSELL, Jr.
Project Director

RMB: pas(26 Apr 56)

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